

**NASHVILLE UNION.**  
FROM THE ARMY AT YORK TOWN.

Show Our Men Worked in the Trenches.

The Tale of a Rebel Negro Sharpshooter.

HOW THE MEN WORKED IN THE TRENCHES.  
It may be a puzzle to many to conceive how our men can throw up fortifications right in the face and in the plain sight of the enemy without being seriously disturbed by them. A brief description may be interesting, inasmuch as it cannot be contradicted, because the work is done right under the noses of the rebels.

A working party is detailed for night duty; with muskets slung on their backs and shovels and picks on their shoulders, they proceed to the selected ground. The white tape marks the line of excavation. The dark lanterns are kept "faced to the rear;" the muskets are carefully laid aside; the shovels are in hand, and each man silently commences to dig; not a word is spoken; not one spade clicks against another; each man digs a hole large enough to cover himself; he then turns and digs to his right hand neighbor; then the ditches deepens and widens, and the parapet rises. Yet all is silent; the rebel comes, and the weary ones retire; the words and jests of the enemy are often plainly heard, while no noise from our men disturbs the stillness save the dull rattle of the earth as each spade is thrown to the top; at daylight, a long line of earthworks, affording complete protection to our men, greets the astonished eyes of the enemy, while the sharpshooters' bullets greet their ears. Frequently this work is done in open daylight, the sharpshooters and pickets keeping the enemy from annoying our men.

ONE OF SUMNER'S FRIENDS GONE UNDER.

The best work of the morning of the 29th ult. was reducing to a state of permanent utility in this mundane world, a negro rifleman, who, through his skill as a marksman, has done more injury to our men, than a dozen of his white compatriots in the attempted labor of reducing the complement of our sharpshooters. Our men have known him for a long time, have kept an eye on him, have lain in wait for him. His habit has been to perch himself in a big tree, and keeping himself hid behind the body, annoy our men by firing upon them. He climbed the tree this morning in advance of the others, coming up snugged him in his position, and was anticipating his usual day of quietude. Our men might have killed him as he came out, but avoided shooting, so as not to alarm the others. His tree was about twenty rods from one of our pits. When our men fired on the advancing rebel pickets, he, of course, saw the fix he was in—that he was decidedly up to it.

"I say, big nigger," called out one of our men, "you better come down from there."

"What for?" responded the nigger.

"I want you as prisoner."

"Not us this while know's us," replied the concealed Eustice.

"Just as you say," replied our sharp shoot.

At about an hour the darkety peered his head out. Our man was on the look out for him; he had his rifle on the head-line ready—pulled the trigger—whiz went the bullet, and down came the nigger. He was shot through the head.

BERDAN'S SHARPSHOOTERS.

These enterprising marksmen furnish the romance of the siege. If it may be so termed, and many and marvellous are the stories told of the feats of daring and skill they execute, and the faithfulness with which they accomplish their duties are certainly of the most arduous and hazardous character. They are generally stationed in pairs in rifle pits, or in some other protected position furnished by the nature of the ground. Generally within five to eight hundred yards of the enemy's pickets, and almost always in front of their entrenched works, for there it is that the accurate marksman can be of the most service, every movement they make, every shot they make, is at the hazard of a life; for the enemy is by no means without good marksmen, some of whom have a skill that rivals "Old California Joe," and would try the skill of Col. Berdan himself. One of these was a stalwart negro, whose accurate firing made him the dread as well as the admiration of our own marksmen. It used to be the boast of the old English archers that each man carried the lives of twelve men at his belt, but this blackamoor carried an innumerable number of lives in the bore of his musket. At any practicable range, with the least sight on one of our men, he seemed to know no such thing as hitting to hit. Happily he is no more. Two days ago, after watching and waiting with the patience and perseverance with which none but the practical rifle picket can exercise, he exposed himself at a moment, and was tumbling over with a ball through his head. The sad part of the story is that the man who had shot him had scarcely withdrawn his rifle, exclaiming: "I got the range that time," when a ball entered his brain, and stretched him lifeless. He was buried yesterday by his comrades. He was a German by birth, but I did not learn his name. The Berdan riflemen are the least soldierly-looking men about here, but there can be no question as to their great services. They wear all sorts of uniforms, and use every description of rifle, each man having that kind with which he is most proficient.

The following observations of the Baltimorean are very just:

THE CALCULATIONS OF THE SOUTH ON THE NORTHWEST.

With the capture of New Orleans and the vindication of the power of the Government so triumphantly elsewhere on the banks of the Mississippi river, that important problem is effectually solved, whether the people of the great Northwest were willing to give up the Union, and the blessings of our noble system of free government for the sake of hitching on to—constituting themselves a mere prelude to the arrogant Cotton States. Whilst the latter have been from the beginning defusing themselves that the fears growing out of pecuniary considerations would prevent certain of the loyal communities from standing up for the Government at one time looking to New York City as probably to be paralyzed, or even as likely to exist in their cause, lost in trade might suffer; the next to Kentucky, lest she might consider her market for mules and hogs, and

rope and bagging gone, and to the whole North as too sordid to fight the general and indignant uprising everywhere has by this time effectually undeceived the movers of the conspiracy, but nowhere, probably, have they met with more bitter disappointment than in their foolish reliance upon the supposed willingness of the great Northwest to give in to their absurd requirements and pretensions. From every scene of conflict in the West, whether at Fort Donelson, where the Illinoisans especially immortalized their State for heroism, or at Pittsburg Landing, or with Commodore Foote's fleet, where the lumbermen of the sources of the Father of Waters made for him a new channel to circumvent Rebeldom, everywhere the same story is told; everywhere the same stern purpose is manifested to vindicate their pre-emptive rights, to resist the dictation and tyranny of those who paid them so poor a compliment as to suppose they would remain silent for fear some pecuniary interest might be implicated. It was a sordid expectation on the part of the devotees of King Cotton, a disgrace to themselves, and dearly are they paying for the criminal folly. They are learning the true nature of that inborn love of free institutions, that ardent patriotism which, in the face of every danger, looks only to the vindication of our unity; that spirit of nationality which, proud of the great past, will accept of no programme which contemplates for a moment a divided country. In truth, until this conflict was forced upon us, the world at large—leaving out the little knot of cotton worshippers—never gave our people credit for that ardent love of country, that pride in our greatness as one nation, since demonstrated in so many fierce battles; and it is a satisfaction to know that when the combat ends all false calculations upon supposed lack of real patriotism will end with it, and none be found so foolish hereafter as to stultify themselves by calculating upon possible divisions here as a basis of success against us.

We have been led to these reflections and remarks by glancing over an article in the columns of the Richmond *Whig*, of about a year ago, an article which so well depicts the expectations of that date of the leaders of the rebellion generally, that we propose to reproduce a portion of it. We quote:

"We would not mislead our people by any misrepresentation, nor inspire any hope; but we cannot resist the belief that the great Northwestern States do not share in the malignant spirit of the Yankees towards the South. For the time being they have been actuated by the excitement which pervaded the North. They were told that the South threatened them with invasion, and, of course, they rushed to arms to defend their rights. They already did that they have been deceived—their experience in camp life is not encouraging, and the furor is subsiding. The loss of their trade with the South, by which alone they have prospered, opens their eyes to the truth that their true interests are with the Confederate States. Interest in the long run will control any people. And if it be, as we sincerely believe it is, the interest of all the States on the upper waters of the Mississippi and Ohio to be in close and friendly intercourse with the Southern States, no great length of time will elapse before the effects of that interest will be developed. We base no calculation on the fact that Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois, are largely populated by Virginians or their descendants; nor the interest of all the States on the lower waters of the Mississippi and Ohio to be in close and friendly intercourse with the Southern States, no great length of time will elapse before the effects of that interest will be developed. 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